

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claim.

01

47. A method for screening candidate compounds capable of inhibiting HMGI biological activity which comprises the steps of :

- (a) immobilizing an HMGI protein, or a fragment thereof, on a solid surface;
- (b) incubating the HMGI protein, or a fragment thereof, with a candidate compound under conditions which promote optimal interaction; and
- (c) identifying candidate compounds which bind to the HMGI protein, or a fragment thereof; and
- (d) measuring the binding affinity of the candidate compounds in step (c);
- (e) transfecting into a cell a DNA construct which contains a reporter gene under the control of an HMGI protein-regulated promoter;
- (f) administering to the cell a candidate compound from step (c);
- (g) measuring the levels of reporter gene expression in the presence and absence of the candidate compound; and
- (h) determining from the levels of reporter gene expression which candidate compounds modulate the HMGI biological activity.

Please cancel claims 41-44.